

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A printing device comprising:
 - a heated roll;
 - a first transport mechanism that moves a printed side of a printed medium against the heated roll;
 - a backing roll that forms a nip with the heated roll, the backing roll being adjustable for changing a distance between the heated roll and the backing roll;
 - a means for supplying a separate sheet to the nip;
 - a second transport mechanism that moves the printed medium to the nip such that the printed medium passes through the nip and the overcoat sheet is fused to the printed side of the printed media.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the backing roll is heated or otherwise provides energy or heat.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the separate sheet is a thermal transfer overcoat sheet, laminate, film sheet, or substantially continuous web.
7. (Previously Presented) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the second transport mechanism includes a duplexer or paper-inverting mechanism.

8. (Currently Amended) A device for supplying an overcoat sheet to a printed medium comprising:

- a heated roll;
- a backing roll that forms a nip with the heated roll;
- a transport mechanism that moves the printed medium through the nip and a first side of a printed medium against the heated roll; and
- a supply mechanism that provides a separate overcoat sheet to the second side of the printed medium at or adjacent the nip, the second side of the printed medium including printed ink;

wherein the overcoat sheet is fused or attached to the second side of the printed medium at least in part by the heat provided from the heated roll;

wherein the printed medium thermally contacts the heated roll only subsequent to the printed ink having been applied to the printed medium.

9. (Currently Amended) A device as recited in claim 8, wherein the printed heated roll alone supplies sufficient heat to fuse or attach the overcoat sheet to the second side of the printed medium.

10. (Original) A device as recited in claim 8, wherein the backing roll is heated or otherwise provides energy or heat.

11. (Currently Amended) A device as recited in claim 8, including a guidance mechanism that guides the printed medium's ~~mediums~~-path prior to entering the nip.

12. (Previously Presented) A device as recited in claim 8, wherein the printed ink associated with the second side of the printed medium is dried and the overcoat sheet is applied together in one heating step by the heated roll and the backing roll.

13. (Previously Presented) A device as recited in claim 8, wherein the overcoat sheet is a thermal transfer overcoat sheet or a substantially continuous web.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a sheet to a printed medium comprising:

providing a printed medium including a first side and a second side, an overcoat sheet, a heated roll, and a backing roll, wherein the heated roll and backing roll form a nip through which the printed medium travels;

transporting the printed medium to a-the nip formed between a-the heated roll and a-the backing roll such that the heated roll heats the first side of the printed medium;

providing a separate overcoat sheet to the second side of the printed medium at or adjacent the nip, the second side of the printed medium including printed ink; and

drying the printed ink and attaching or fusing the overcoat sheet to the second side of the printed medium;

wherein the printed medium thermally contacts the heated roll only subsequent to the printed ink having been applied to the printed medium.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1415, including the removal of a portion of the overcoat material or sheet.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1415, wherein the backing roll is heated or otherwise provides energy or heat.

17. (Canceled)

18. (New) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the backing roll is not heated.

19. (New) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the heated roll is coated with a non-wetting material.

20. (New) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the printed side of the printed medium includes printed ink, and wherein the printed medium does not thermally contact the heated roll prior to application of the printed ink to the printed medium.

21. (New) A device as recited in claim 8, wherein the printed medium curves around at least a portion of the heated roll before being moved through the nip.

22. (New) A device as recited in claim 8, wherein the heated roll is coated with a non-wetting material.

23. (New) A device as recited in claim 8, further comprising a heater or fan for applying heat to the printed medium, a position of the heater or fan being adjustable.

24. (New) A device for supplying an overcoat sheet to a printed medium comprising:

- a heated roll;

- a backing roll that forms a nip with the heated roll;

- a transport mechanism that moves the printed medium through the nip and a first side of a printed medium against the heated roll; and

- a supply mechanism that provides a separate overcoat sheet to the second side of the printed medium at or adjacent the nip, the second side of the printed medium including printed ink;

- wherein the overcoat sheet is fused or attached to the second side of the printed medium at least in part by the heat provided from the heated roll;

- wherein the heated roll alone supplies sufficient heat to fuse or attach the overcoat sheet to the second side of the printed medium.